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Briefing Log*

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520



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MEMORANDUM

TO: *6* AF - Mr. Moose  
THROUGH: AF - Edward Brynn  
FROM: AF/C - Arlene Render *AK (mex)*  
SUBJECT: Welcome Home Update - Burundi, Rwanda, Zaire

BURUNDI

The convoy in which Ambassador Krueger was traveling was ambushed June 14 in the northern part of Cibitoke province in northwest Burundi. The Ambassador and the OAU Special Representative had been invited by the Foreign Minister to accompany him to Cibitoke. They were traveling in an armed convoy with Burundi security escorts and OAU military observers. The Ambassador was accompanied by two DS Special Agents, whose quick action, resourcefulness and courage enabled the Ambassador, OAU Representative and Foreign Minister to escape the ambush unharmed. Sadly, one OAU observer and one Burundi military officer were killed, and 8 other persons were wounded in the attack.

Ambassador Krueger, accompanied by the DS agents, returned safely to Bujumbura in the President's helicopter June 15. Both Ambassador Krueger and the Department Spokesman have issued statements condemning this attack and the continuing violence in Burundi. We have called for a full investigation by the GRB and demanded that those responsible be subject to due process of law.

All travel outside Bujumbura by US mission personnel in Burundi has now been restricted and requires prior Department approval. Travel within the city is restricted to those areas deemed safe by the RSO. CA issued a new Travel Warning on Burundi reflecting the above travel restriction for USG employees.

President Ntibantunganya announced June 18 on national television the imposition of a "non-state of emergency," which includes a variety of measures to increase government control

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- 2 -

and prevent further outbreaks of conflict. Among the most significant measures are that the President is to rule by decree until the next session of Parliament begins in October, that both military and political commissars will be appointed for each administrative division and urban area, and the banning of all political meetings and demonstrations.

Sporadic killings of Hutus continue throughout the country and the overall situation is deteriorating. Fighting has continued in Kamenge since June 17. Both the Italians and the Belgians came to AF/C to express concern about the deteriorating security situation.

The U.S. position paper on the Burundi Commission of Inquiry has been sent to Ambassador Krueger for clearance. It will then go through the interagency clearance process, where we anticipate no problems.

RWANDA/BURUNDI

Dick Bogosian has been assigned as the new Rwanda/Burundi coordinator. He will be in AF/C June 20.

RWANDA

The first meeting of the Rwanda Tribunal, at which judges will be sworn in, will be held in The Hague on June 26.

UNAMIR officials with whom Kigali embassies have spoken in recent days have expressed disappointment with the new mandate, describing it as vague and unworkable. Force Commander Tousignant was particularly discouraged, telling Ambassador Rawson that Vice President Kagame had "won" the negotiations over the mandate and that the troops left in the field after the drawdown will not amount to much. He predicted that the mandate will not be renewed and that UNAMIR would leave Rwanda by late December.

Eight Rwandan military officers nominated by the MOD to participate in a June 26-30 planning conference at the Naval Justice School in Rhode Island will travel June 20 to Kampala to receive their visas. The purpose of the conference is to develop a curriculum for human rights and military justice EIMET training appropriate for Rwanda. The eight are scheduled to arrive in Newport June 23.

In separate meetings June 14 with Vice President Kagame and Health Minister Colonel Karemera, Ambassador Rawson and DCM Whaley were told that while there are not plans to move against the ex-FAR in Zaire, the RPA is prepared to react if provoked. Both officials complained of frequent cross-border attacks from

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- 3 -

within Zaire and indicated that the GOR's patience is not inexhaustible. When I briefed Rwandan charge Matuboba on the ROSG June 14, I urged the GOR to refrain from any activities which would exacerbate tensions. "We will," he replied, "unless our hand is forced."

As you know, UN/DKPO indicated at the ROSG that the GOR is insisting on payment of import duties and income taxes by the contractor bringing food and supplies into Rwanda for UNAMIR. DPKO Africa chief Annabi approached USUN again about the problem June 14, saying that with its latest food shipment impounded pending payment, UNAMIR has only a few days bread supply remaining. He asked for the USG to use its influence with the GOR to help resolve the problem. IO is now checking how tax/duty exemptions are addressed in the Status of Mission Agreement (SOMA). If, as expected, the SOMA is clear on the point that supplies intended for UNAMIR may enter the country free of import duties, a cable (already drafted by IO and cleared by AF/C) will be sent to Embassy Kigali requesting they demarche the GOR.

## ZAIRE

The White House announced Ambassador Simpson's nomination for Ambassador to Zaire on June 15. We prepared press guidance outlining the reasoning for returning an Ambassador to Zaire, which was raised at the June 16 briefing. Both BBC and VOA have requested information on our reasons.

DAS Brynn will brief Senate staffers on Zaire on Wednesday, June 21, at their request. In dealing with Congressional questions/concerns on the upgrade in representation and visa issues, we intend to avoid any semblance of linkage between the two. On the Ambassadorial appointment, we are certainly willing and able to explain the decision when asked. We will, however, seek to avoid raising the issue ourselves and to maintain a low profile through the confirmation process.

There is renewed lobbying for a Mobutu visa. This round has a commercial twist, with one set of calls related to telecommunications purchases involving an American firm and approaches to Small Business Committee member Hilliard. Both the Hillard call (to AF/C) and those fielded by Janean Mann in H have been primarily information inquiries, not requests for visa issuance. We have also received letters from several current and former Members in support of a visa, including former Congressman Dymally and Congressmen Dan Burton and Walter Tucker.

Mobutu's by-line appeared on a self-serving Washington Times opinion piece outlining his wish for cooperation between American and Zairian leaders to bring democracy to Zaire. Congressman Hamilton is planning to respond publicly, outlining ways in which Mobutu can advance the democratic transition on his own.

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185  
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